



P. NIKIFOROS DIAMANDOUROS

**EO/07/14**  
10 October 2007

## **Ombudsmen from all over Europe for a citizen-friendly administration**

The European Ombudsman, **P. Nikiforos Diamandouros**, and the French Ombudsman, **Jean-Paul Delevoye**, have invited ombudsmen and petitions committees from all 27 EU Member States as well as the candidate countries, to exchange views on:

### **"Rethinking good administration in the European Union"**

Monday, 15 October 9.00 h - 16 October 13.00 h, Strasbourg

#### **Press Conference:**

**Tuesday, 16 October, 13.00 h  
in room WIC 100**

**Winston Churchill Building  
av. du Président Robert Schuman  
European Parliament, Strasbourg**

The ombudsmen meet within the context of the *European Network of Ombudsmen*, which comprises over 90 offices in 31 countries and serves as a mechanism for cooperation in dealing with citizens' complaints. It is equally active in exchanging information about EU law and sharing best practice. The network aims to make the work of ombudsmen in Europe better known and to clarify the service that ombudsmen provide to citizens, businesses, associations and others.

**National and regional ombudsmen** deal with complaints against public authorities in the Member States. Their competence extends to problems related to the application of EU law, and covers, for example, complaints about health services, social security systems or pension payments.

**The European Ombudsman** investigates complaints concerning poor or failed administration in the European Union's institutions and bodies, such as the European Commission. Examples of issues he deals with are late payment, refusal of access to documents and discrimination.

National Ombudsmen Seminars are held every two years and are organised jointly by the European Ombudsman and a National Ombudsman in one of the Member States. The seminar programme and an overview of participating ombudsmen are available under:

<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/release/en/2007-10-10.htm>

*To register for the press conference or to request an interview with the European Ombudsman, the French Ombudsman or any of the other ombudsmen participating in the Seminar, please contact:*

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